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INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY CODES 46						MOSCOW NEWS		

TO UZBEK CANAL

**30,000 Collective
Farmers Do Job
In 15 Days**

**Will Improve Irrigation
Over 20,000-Acre Area**

THE STALIN Great Ferghana Canal in Uzbekistan, which, in length, was dug in 1954 last August by 100,000 Asian collective farmers, has been extended from the city of Kanibadam to Leninabad in Tajikistan. This extension is 79 miles long and involved the excavation of 1,000,000 cubic meters of earth. It was dug in 15 days, despite inclement weather, by 30,000 collective farmers.

Before work was begun on the extension of the canal, small tents of tents and mud huts decorated with rugs and blankets were set up in the steppes. Dining rooms, barber shops, shoe repairs, bathhouses, bookstands, and were built. Improvised clubs were set up in many places.

Work is now in progress on the construction of auxiliary structures along the new part of the canal which include a large railway bridge, 10 ordinary bridges and several motor roads. These undertakings are scheduled to be completed in April of this year. It is planned to let the first water in this section on May 1.

The opening of the extension of the Great Ferghana Canal will enable collective farmers of Tajikistan to improve irrigation of some 20,000 acres of arable land and to bring into cultivation 10,000 acres of virgin soil. Water will be available for several agricultural districts of the Tajik republic.

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	MAY 20 1947		328		Stalin Canal
CIA NO.	AND SOURCE SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS				
MAJOR PRODUCT	10 12				

The Vakhsh Valley (Tadzhikistan).

The Soviet have brought fertility to a dry area by irrigation.

Thousands of workers, during the Five-Year Plans, have built the Vakhsh "Stalin" Canal. The waters of the R. Vakhsh have been directed into canals and irrigation channels.

600,000 cub. metres of water are received daily by the main canal construction.

The Vakhsh oblast receives tractors, agricultural machines, fuel, tea, textile materials and consumer goods, and supplies astrakhan wool, wool, fruit, rose etherbearing oil, silk, horses, and above all cotton.

The main problem is population. The transferring of whole collective farms from the mountains of the Pamir has been resumed. (Some inhabitants were taken from the Garm oblast nine years ago). These transfers are being done by passenger-freight and freight aircraft. Houses and buildings are ready for the people on arrival. State loans and credits are available for the farmers.

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SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS

NO. 12

The collective farmers of the valley have been given the task of growing long-fibre Egyptian cotton.

The people are working well here and being well repaid for their efforts. One may see in each house good furniture, a wireless set and books. There is a 10-year school and a cinema.

There is a zonal botanical station at Vakhsh, which tests everything before the farmers plant it. The testing of the batat (the potato of warm climates) has been completed; a harvest of 125 tons was obtained from one hectare. It is suitable food for man and cattle.

Sov. Estonia 17 May 47